that on the National Channel, Doordarshan telecasts following programmes for children, which contain scientific information :—

1. Gyan Darshan for Secondary School level

2. Country-wide Class-room

3. Distance Education

4.Tarang

5. "Turning Point"

DD Metro telecasts children's programmes between 4.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Scientific programmes can also be telecast on sponsorship basis in this time band depending on the interest of outside producers.

Programmes on science are also telecasts in the six hour window devoted exclusively for children's programmes on DD Bharati Channel.

(c) Does not arise.

Innovative programmes by AIR, Vishakhapatnam

2597. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vishakhapatnam Station of All India Radio is introducing some innovative programmes to attract more artists to prepare programmes; and

(b) the details of new programmes to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI. SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati has informed that the introduction of innovative programmes in AIR Stations is an ongoing process, keeping in view the requirements of listeners. AIR, Vishakhapatnam, is also introducing many innovative programmes in various genres like Music (a musical notation of Adi Shankaracharya's "Soundarya Lahari"), Drama (old classics like "Malavikaagni Mitram", "Kumarasambhavam" etc), Romantic Music (under a series called "Madhuratimadhuram"), series on evolution of Telugu literature, Folk Music etc.